

Washington News Letter

Erwin News Service
Washington, D. C.

The North Carolina Democratic Club of Washington will hold an Inaugural Meeting and reception the night of January 25 at the Willard Hotel, as part of Inauguration Week festivities in Washington. The main speaker will be Rep. Monroe M. Redden, of Hendersonville, former State Democratic Chairman.

John A. Lang, of Carthage, president of the club, announced plans for the meeting and reception and also disclosed \$1500 has been raised from Tar Heel farming and industrial interests to finance North Carolina's float in the inaugural parade January 20.

The float will advertise the industrial and agricultural glories of the state, probably with this wording: "The South's Most Progressive State—North Carolina—Industrial and Agricultural Growth."

Mrs. Marguerite Brookbank, of Faison, is a member of the National Inaugural Committee in Washington

and is working closely with the club in arranging the meeting and reception and getting the float registered in the inaugural program.

Because of its date, the Democratic Club party will attract scores if not hundreds, of Tar Heel Democrats here not only to attend the inauguration of President Truman but other events immediately before and a few days after the inauguration.

C. R. (Tony) Tolar, Raleigh automobile dealer and formerly of Lumberton, enjoyed a brief reign as "Senator Tolar" on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Tolar was a member of the great delegation from Raleigh, and elsewhere in Tar Heelita, that migrated to Washington to see J. Melville Broughton sworn in as United States Senator.

Mr. Broughton, following a luncheon he and his wife gave for their army of friends, had a little conferring to do elsewhere, so the friends moved into the Broughton office on



HIS . . . FBI identification photo of Alger Hiss, former state department official, after he had been arraigned on two counts of perjury as an outgrowth of testimony in connection with Communist spy inquiries.

maese and took over.

When Broughton returned, he found his friend Tolar serving as interim Senator. Mr. Tolar was swiveling contentedly in the Broughton chair, answering to the name of "Senator Tolar" and otherwise throwing his weight around.

Senator Broughton stood at attention and saluted as he was introduced to "Senator Tolar."

Broughton had no trouble getting his swivel chair, however, as Mr. Tolar and other friends had a photographer ready to shoot a few pictures of those present.

Rep.-elect and Mrs. Ertel Carlyle of Lumberton, and their daughter, Lois, were among the visitors who signed the register in the Broughton office.

When J. Melville Broughton became North Carolina's junior Senator in Washington he brought to work at the Capitol a staff of six assistants.

The Broughton staff is headed by John D. McConnell, Southern Pines attorney, as administrative assistant, and J. Richard Queen of Waynesville as secretary.

Miss Kate Humphreys of Raleigh, for many years Broughton's personal secretary at the State Capitol when he was Governor, and also in his law office, is here in her usual role.

Other members of the staff are Mrs. Eloise Denson of Rocky Mount, Miss Virginia Perry of Greensboro, and Miss Evelyn Covington of Raleigh. Mrs. Denson is a familiar figure in the Senate Office Building, having served until recently with Senator W. Lee O'Daniel, former governor of Texas.

Mr. Queen comes from a family widely known in mountain politics and public affairs. He was a member of the staff of the State Senate in 1939.

Speaking of Broughton, he started the first day of the new 81st Congress by answering that day every letter the mailman brought in.

Broughton personally signed more than 200 letters he had dictated, plus a lot of routine business mail handled by members of his staff.

The staff was handicapped by working in only one room outside the Senator's private office. This is because a third room in the suite, normally occupied by the stenographic force, is being painted. In addition to a staff of six in one room, there was a small army of visitors invading the suite at various times during the day.

The Senator soon will bring in and put up the scores of pictures he has collected, pictures of friends and colleagues of public and private life, and pictures from various chapters in the history of the Broughton family.

Both Senators Hoey and Broughton have recommended to President Truman the reappointment of Garland R. Ferguson of Greensboro to the Federal Trade Commission, but opposition to the veteran commissioner's re-appointment is looming;

it as learned.

President Truman renominated Ferguson, the senior member of the commission, last for another term, but the Republican-dominated Senate, anticipating a Republican presidential victory, refused to take action on the appointment.

Ferguson since has been serving under an interim appointment.

Sens. Clyde R. Hoey and J. Melville Broughton are joining with other Southern Senators in sponsoring a resolution proposing a Constitutional amendment to abolish poll taxes.

The Tar Heel Senators and Senator Spessard L. Holland (D. Fla.) are preparing a joint resolution which will prohibit the required payment of a poll tax or property tax as a requirement for voting in national elections. The resolution, if passed by both the House and Senate, would be the beginning of getting the required approval for a Constitutional Amendment. The amendment would have to be ratified by three quarters of the State before it would become effective.

Sen. J. Melville Broughton conferred with James E. Thigpen, director of the Tobacco Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration in the Agriculture Department, regarding foreign markets for a flue-cured tobacco.

Subsequently, Thigpen left Washington for a visit to several European countries to talk with government leaders there about markets for American-grown tobacco. He talked with Broughton in order to get the views of a North Carolina Senator before leaving on his trip.

State Commissioner of Agriculture David S. Coltrane, of Raleigh, is being boomed in Washington for the post of Assistant Agriculture Secretary.

Coltrane, who has followed the Administration on most agricultural polices, has been endorsed for the high post by Senator Clyde R. Hoey. Senator Hoey disclosed he had endorsed Coltrane several weeks ago in a letter to Agriculture Secretary Charles E. Brannan.

Other Southern senators are also understood to be backing Coltrane for the agricultural post. However, Sen. J. Melville Broughton said he had not been approached on the matter.

Livestock slaughter on Carolina farms was on the increase from January to October in 1948 in comparison with the year before except for sheep and lamb, the Agriculture Department has reported.

The rise in the number of livestock slaughtered was substantial on every front. Cattle and calf slaughter led the field with increases reported in the thousands. Cattle killing on Carolina farms rose from 93,100 to 102,500 head in North



UNDAUNTED . . . Dr. Lloyd Smith, 26-year-old physicist and one of five atomic scientists facing blindness from radiation, has expressed hope that the news of their injuries will not hamper the nation's atomic program.

Carolina and from 70,100 to 74,200 head in South Carolina.

Although sheep and lamb slaughter slipped some 1,200 head in the Tar Heel State, South Carolina's slaughter production of sheep and lamb rose 300 head.

Both states reported increases in the slaughter of hogs, one thousand more in N. C. and 77,000 more in S. C. Gains numbered some 20,000 head in calf slaughter in N. C. and more than 5,000 registered in S. C.

When Rep. Harold D. Cooley, of Nashville, takes over the House Agriculture Committee as chairman, he will take with him his secretary and assistant of 21 years, Mrs. Mabel Downey, also of Nashville.

It was learned here that Mrs. Downey will occupy one of the two top ranking positions on the staff of the House Agriculture Committee which Cooley by seniority will head in the 81st Congress.

Sen. Hoey has been appointed to the Senate Finance Committee, one of the more important of the committees of this body.

At the same time, the Democratic Steering Committee also announced assignment of Senator Broughton to the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee. His predecessor, former Senator William B. Umstead, was a member of the post office group.

Sen. Hoey will remain on the Agriculture Committee and the Senate Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

While the cat's away, the mice will play, two Tar Heels said recently as they scamped about the House Office Buildings.

But their "playing" was actually the friendly business of getting acquainted with Capitol Hill colleagues. The pair were John D. McConnell, of Southern Pines, and J. Rich-

ard Queen, of Waynesville, Administrative Assistant and Executive Secretary respectively, to J. Melville Broughton.

Their boss was in Raleigh to attend the inauguration of Governor Kerr Scott so Queen and McConnell spent most of the day "meeting a lot of mighty nice people."

Sen. Hoey is on record as favoring a Constitutional amendment abolishing the electoral college and splitting the electoral votes in each state in exact proportion to the popular vote.

The North Carolina legislator joined with Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge (R. Mass.) and several other senators in introducing a joint resolution proposing the amendment. Under the proposal, the present arrangement whereby each state has a number of electoral votes equal to the number of its representatives and senators is retained, but these votes would be divided between the candidates according to the proportion of the popular vote each receives.

PLEASE SAY "I SAW IT IN THE NEWS." THANK YOU.



FLEES . . . Ernst Heinrich von Elstedel, great-grandson of Otto von Bismarck, has quit his job as editor of the Dresden-based Tagliche Rundschau and fled to the western sector. He has been arrested in the U. S. some several times before.

Peanut yields in the State in 1948 averaged 1,225 pounds per acre—195 pounds more than average yields in 1947.

POULTRY WANTED

My truck will be in Lillington, N. C., behind John Womble's Store, Saturday morning, January 15, 1949, buying the following prices:

Heavy Hens 33c lb.
Roosters 17c lb.

I will buy there every Saturday all of this winter.
I also buy in Angier every day.

Avery Stephens

WHEN THE MERCURY TUMBLES

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DUNN	6
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Notice To All Delinquent Taxpayers

Of **Harnett County**

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AT ITS MEETING JANUARY 3, 1949, ORDERED ME TO LEVY ON AUTOMOBILES AND ALL OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY TO SATISFY UNPAID TAXES DUE THE COUNTY OF HARNETT.

IF YOU ARE DELINQUENT IN YOUR TAXES, YOU CAN SAVE THE COST OF THIS LEVY AND EMBARRASSMENT TO YOU BY HAVING A LEVY PLACED UPON YOUR PROPERTY.

A PENALTY GOES ON TAXES UNPAID BY FEBRUARY 1. SEE ME NOW AND SAVE MONEY.

W. D. HARRINGTON

TAX COLLECTOR HARNETT COUNTY